

1779

LAW DEPARTMENT

THE KROGER CO.

PAUL W. HELDMAN SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND GENERAL COUNSEL

BRUCE M. GACK VICE PRESIDENT AND ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL 1014 VINE STREET TELEFAX NUMBERS 513-762-4935 513-762-4554 WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER 513-762-1462 **CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202-1100**

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September 30, 2002

VIA FACSIMILE 202-942-9651 VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary Securities and Exchange Commission 450 Fifth Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20549

RE:

The Kroger Co.

Sworn Statements of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Commission Order No. 4-460

Dear Mr. Katz:

In accordance with the Order of the Securities and Exchange Commission requiring the filing of sworn statements pursuant to Section 21(a)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (File No. 4-460), enclosed please find a sworn statement from each of Joseph A. Pichler, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and J. Michael Schlotman, Group Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of The Kroger Co.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

Very truly yours,

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Bruce M. Gack

SEP 3 0 **2002**

BMG/ba Encl.

1779

Statement Under Oath of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer Regarding Facts and Circumstances Relating to Exchange Act Filings

I,Joseph A. Pichler, state and attest that:

- (1) To the best of my knowledge, based upon a review of the covered reports of The Kroger Co., and, except as corrected or supplemented in a subsequent covered report:
 - no covered report contained an untrue statement of a material fact as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed); and
 - no covered report omitted to state a material fact necessary to make the statements in the covered report, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed).
- (2) I have reviewed the contents of this statement with the Company's audit committee.
- (3) In this statement under oath, each of the following, if filed on or before the date of this statement, is a "covered report":
 - Annual Report on Form 10-K of The Kroger Co., for the fiscal year ended February 2, 2002 filed with the Commission;
 - all reports on Form 10-Q, all reports on Form 8-K and all definitive proxy materials of The Kroger Co. filed with the Commission subsequent to the filing of the Form 10-K identified above; and

any amendments to any of the foregoing.

Joseph A. Pichler

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

September 30, 2002

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of September, 2002.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

BRENDA R. ANDES Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Expires June 20, 2003